

ACCA began in October 1967, when Fred and Emily Ruffing witnessed and acted upon a tremendous need in their community. The couple worked for a government-subsidized daycare center in Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Alexandria, which had just enough resources to provide for families on welfare, but not the working poor. Distressed at the idea of making families return to welfare to provide their children with daycare services, Mr. and Mrs. Ruffing set out to organize their own daycare center with the help of eight local churches. Through an abundance of support from the local community, they succeeded in meeting the need and led their organization, ACCA, to branch out into other activities such as transportation, housing and emergency cash assistance.

I have had the pleasure of working with ACCA on so many issues affecting people in need, from establishing its daycare center, to helping found the Bailey's Crossroads homeless shelters, to its food and furniture programs for the poor. Their dedication has made a difference for thousands of families.

While ACCA now provides an array of services to those in need, its original daycare facility continues to thrive as the Child Development Center in the old Annandale Elementary School on Columbia Pike. It cares for over 200 infants and children of the working poor.

In memory of its founder, Fred Ruffing, ACCA provides an annual memorial scholarship for aspiring college students with disabilities. Emily Ruffing continues to work in the Child Development Center as a social worker.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank the Annandale Christian Community for Action for being the embodiment of Christian love in and around the Annandale community. Their continued success serves as a testament to the power of volunteerism and what can happen when individuals come together in faith to accomplish what others never dreamt possible. I call upon my colleagues to join me in commending and congratulating the ACCA on 40 years of excellence.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE ORIGINAL HARVEST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th year of the Original Harvest Missionary Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio. For the past five decades, the leadership and membership of the Church has served to lift our Cleveland community through worship, faith and song.

The Church came to life in 1957, when the Reverend Marcellus Chatman, guided by his faith and a mission to serve, founded the Original Harvest Missionary Baptist Church. His wife, Mrs. Anna Lee Young Chatman, not only named the Church but also organized, directed and performed in the Church choir. Their daughters, Marcella and Ruby, have also been faithful members and leaders of the Church since its inception: Marcella as pianist and Ruby as administrator of Harvest Day Care, which was founded by their mother in 1969.

The loyalty, support and commitment that the Chatman family continues to infuse throughout our neighborhoods are also reflected within the Church congregation. Reverend Fred Caffie, Jr. began his service in 1979, and served for 25 years. The Church Patriarch and Musical Director, David Smith, has faithfully served the Church for over 30 years. The Reverend Michael W. Turner, who was installed as Pastor in early 2005, continues the Church legacy of hope, joy and inspiration.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Chatman family, and all the leaders and members of the Original Harvest Missionary Baptist Church, past and present, as they celebrate 50 years of faith, love and spirituality that continue to strengthen our community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FREEDOM ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today, along with Representatives TOM LANTOS and SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, I am reintroducing the "International Women's Freedom Act." This legislation establishes an Office of International Women's Rights within the State Department headed by the appointed Ambassador at Large, and additionally, would create a United States Commission on International Women's Rights. The positive links between the empowerment of women and effective and sustainable development are very clear and this legislation would seek to protect women's rights by channeling U.S. security and development assistance to countries that are not found in gross violations of women's rights. I believe that all people, regardless of gender, should have the power to shape their lives and participate in their communities without the fear of oppression. When given the tools they need, such as education, access to employment, land, and economic assets, and the opportunity to contribute to civic life, women and girls improve their situation in society and have a positive impact on society as a whole. By annually reviewing the status of women's rights in each country and designating countries of particular concern, more succinct policy recommendations can be made to the President, the Secretary of State, and the Congress.

We require the State Department to issue reports on battling international bribery, religious freedom, and narcotics control, among many others. Creating a report on the status of women's rights is vitally important to assuring the rights of women worldwide.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES HENLEY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of James Henley's 41 years of

public service as Sacramento's city historian. Mr. Henley leaves a lasting legacy in Sacramento and he will be deeply missed.

In 1965, the then city historian and Sacramento State professor Aubrey Neasham asked Mr. Henley to read archived blueprints. As a graduate student in the pursuit of a masters degree in history, James was inspired to not only teach history but to also work with it. Mr. Henley's career began in a three-person city department that focused on the Old Sacramento Historic District, now known as Old Sacramento. Designated as a State Historic Park, Old Sacramento portrays the time of the Gold Rush with cobblestone streets and wooden sidewalks, shops, restaurants and museums that attract 5 million visitors annually. Upon the retirement of Ms. Neasham, only one person could truly continue her work, and Mr. Henley took over the department. Under his leadership, the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center, also known as, SAMCC, was born.

The SAMCC acquires, preserves, and promotes the study of Sacramento's history through city and county historical records. These collections include personal manuscripts, business records, official records of the city and county, photographs and other artifacts relating to the region's history. The records are the heart of Sacramento's history as James has preserved them for future generations to enjoy.

The preservation achievements of Mr. Henley and his staff are evident in the 5½ miles of movable shelves that house objects, photographs and documents at SAMCC. This includes parts of a Gutenberg Bible, negatives from The Sacramento Bee, and archived news film shot by KCRA 3. All in all, the records that Mr. Henley has preserved make the SAMCC collection the largest city archives in California and second only to the state archive. This has been a truly wonderful achievement.

Mr. Henley has not only served as a strong leader in preserving the history of the great Sacramento region, but also is a champion for the conservation of the City of Sacramento. He oversaw the publishing of Vanishing Victorians; a book that led to preservation efforts of Sacramento's historic Victorians in the 1960s and 1970s, when many were destroyed for redevelopment projects. His preservation efforts also contributed to the restoration of the historic Memorial Auditorium, the B.F. Hastings Building, as well as establishing the California State Railroad Museum. That museum is now a crown jewel in Old Sacramento and attracts thousands of families each year.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. James Henley's distinguished commitment to the preservation of Sacramento's distinguished history. Mr. Henley always has stood as an instrumental force behind the protection of Sacramento's history for generations to come. We all are thankful for his efforts. As James Henley's colleagues and friends gather to honor his service for the city, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing him continued good fortune in his future endeavors.